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Nelle Y. McLaughlin
Marlinton, W. Va.

Pocahontas County

Chapter 5- Section 2-a

Shortly after the construction of the first road into Pocahontas County (1838) called the Warm Springs and Huntersville Turnpike, a man by the name of John Harness began hauling goods from Staunton into the mountains for the purpose of trading with the settlers. He made his headquarters at the home of John Bradshaw at Huntersville and here he began to trade his supplies of salt, coffee, powder, lead, a few pieces of calico, etc., for the pelts, venison and ginseng of the hunters. From this fact the place became known as Huntersville. It had a very prosperous development on account of the traders meeting here to exchange goods. It was no uncommon thing for the Huntersville merchants to realize three or four hundred per cent on dry goods, and not much less on groceries during the period from 1822 to 1845.

In 1852 a very disasterous fire occurred and destroyed most of the business part of the village. Other buildings were erected but were burned by the Federal troops to prevent its being a confederate depot for military supplies.

When peace was restored between the States, Huntersville recuperated rapidly. Many trades were carried on such as harness and saddlery, tailoring, blacksmithing, and hostelry in conjunction with salooning.

was a part of the day's program.
The early schools were called subscription or select